(c) if so, the steps taken to tackle the situation; and

(d) what was the corpus available during 2000-2001 under non-lapsable pool and pendency position of the Projects submitted by the various State Governments; what are the steps being taken to expedite sanction of the pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) So far, an amount of Rs. 941.07 crores has been released from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources for the various projects/schemes in the North-East and Sikkim. Details are annexed. [*See* Appendix 193, Annexure No. 9]

An exercise to identify the availability of funds in the Pool has since been initiated.

All schemes received from the various State Governments in the North East (and Sikkim) proposed to be funded out of the Central Pool are under active consideration.

(b) and (c) During 2000-2001, an amount of Rs. 399.45 crores was recommended for release from the Pool for the various projects in the North East (and Sikkim). Against this recommended amount, an amount of Rs. 313.04 crores was released during 2000-2001 and Rs. 86.16 crores (as on date) during 2001-2002.

Growth Rate Target for Ninth Plan

597. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate target set for the Ninth Five Year Plan period and the achievements made so far;

(b) whether higher targets have been set for the Tenth and Eleventh Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) the target growth rate of the economy, measured by growth rate

of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant factor cost, was fixed at 6.5 per cent on average per annum for the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-98 to 2001-2002), Against this, the economy has achieved annual average growth rate of 5.75% during the first four years (1997-98 to 2000-01) of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) The Planning Commission is in the process of formulating the Tenth Five Year Plan.

Development Schemes

†598. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN'
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several schemes are being implemented by Government for development of country;

(b) if so, the number of such schemes at present;

(c) the average annual expenditure being incurred thereon;

(d) whether Government are considering to bring down this number; and

(e) if so, the proposed number of such schemes and the reasons for bring down the number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b) Various Central Ministries/Departments of Government of India are concerned with Central Schemes/Centrally Sponsored Schemes falling within their purview and these schemes are implemented/monitored by the respective Ministries/Departments. The details of different schemes being implemented by various Ministries/Departments along with their outlays are available in the Annual Expenditure Budget Vol. II of Union Government and sub-Head wise details of expenditure on various schemes is available in the performance budget of the respective Ministries/Departments.

(c) A statement on Central Plan Outlay/Expenditure during the Ninth Plan period is enclosed. (*See* below).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.